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LETTER DATED 13 AUGUST 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF PAKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to enclose the text of my delegation's statement on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which it would have made in the event of a general debate during today's Security Council consideration of the item presently on its agenda.

I should be grateful if this letter along with its annex is circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jamsheed K. A. MARKER
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement by the Pakistan delegation to the United Nations

Mr. President,

Allow me to begin by expressing my delegation's appreciation for the most able manner in which you have presided over the proceedings of the Security Council during the current month. I am confident that you would guide with the same distinction today's difficult deliberations on the grave crisis obtaining in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I would also like to take this occasion to place on record our sincere appreciation for the exemplary manner in which your predecessor, His Excellency Ambassador Jose Luis Jesus, the distinguished Permanent Representative of Cape Verde chaired the work of the Council during the month of July.

Mr. President,

We still find it difficult to comprehend the present actions of Belgrade, since Yugoslavia had been for the past 40 years one of the leaders of the Non-Aligned Movement, and the most ardent in support of its noble objectives. It was our sincere hope that the peoples of former Yugoslavia would have resolved their differences in a peaceful manner in accordance with the established norms of inter-State conduct and in conformity with the United Nations Charter. Unfortunately, that has not been the case. Instead, we are today confronted with an alarming situation between independent States which constituted the former Yugoslavia.

It was also our sincere hope that international efforts aimed at bringing peace to this strife-torn region would have borne fruit. Sadly, that too has not come to pass. As we meet today, the aggression against the people and territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina has been further intensified by Serbia and Serbian-led elements. The world has learned with horror of the many concentration camps and centres where innocent civilians have been detained in the most inhumane conditions. These acts have been committed in total defiance of the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and of the very decisions of this august house. The grave situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina demands decisive international action.

Mr. President,

The massive violation of human rights by Serbian elements has been a source of great concern and anguish to the people and Government of Pakistan. In particular, we condemn the atrocities being committed against innocent and defenceless Muslims and Croats, and the "ethnic cleansing" campaign. Indeed, the current "ethnic-cleansing" campaign by Serbian elements is a crime against humanity, and raises horrible memories of similar revolting activities conducted in Europe in the recent past. The massacre of civilians, the

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forcible interdiction of relief supplies and the continued violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of a neighbouring country which has been a model of ethnic coexistence cannot be and must not be accepted by the international community.

We have been following with keen interest the negotiations on Bosnia and Herzegovina being conducted under the auspices of the European Community. We look forward to the reconvening of the Conference in London towards the end of the month. The negotiating process must be accompanied by international efforts in the immediate term to put an end to the violence.

My delegation believes that the time has come for the United Nations to adopt stronger measures to ensure that all the consequences of the aggression against Bosnia and Herzegovina are reversed and this newly independent country is allowed to exist in a congenial and tranquil regional and international environment. It is necessary that the military intervention and violation of human rights by Belgrade authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina is brought to an immediate end. We are equally concerned at the obstacles created by Serbian elements to prevent urgently needed humanitarian assistance from reaching the civilian population of that country. It is imperative for the Council to send a firm message to those concerned that the international community will not tolerate the blatant use of force.

Mr. President,

We welcome today's adoption by the Security Council of the two resolutions to ensure that humanitarian assistance reaches all parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina and that international humanitarian organizations, in particular the ICRC have unimpeded access to concentration camps and detention centres. While these long overdue measures are most welcome they, by themselves, will not suffice in the present circumstances.

My delegation strongly favours that Bosnia and Herzegovina may be exempted from the arms embargo imposed under Security Council resolution 713 (1992). Bosnia and Herzegovina, as an independent country and a Member of the United Nations, has an inherent right to self-defence under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. It needs to be ensured that they are provided the means to legitimately defend themselves against blatant aggression. It is important for the Council to be consistent in its approach towards all issues that have a direct bearing on international peace and security. The situation demands that the Council act with equal vigour and undertake measures under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, including the use of military force under Article 42.

Mr. President,

In view of these considerations, the Government of Pakistan has decided not to accept the claim of the new Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) as successor state of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Moreover, in our view the matter of succession is a question which has to be

settled by the independent states that constituted former Yugoslavia. The new Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) must strictly adhere to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, recognize and respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina and withdraw all its military and paramilitary forces from that country before it can legitimately aspire to be a member of the United Nations family.

In conclusion, Mr. President, I wish to express my Government's strong support for any measures that the Council may adopt with a view to vacating the aggression against Bosnia and Herzegovina. We firmly believe that a clear and unequivocal signal from the Council would convince the Serbian leadership of the futility of their present policy and that the high principles of the Charter of this Organization will prevail at the end of the day.

Thank you Mr. President.
